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Latimer, Becky

From: Latimer, Becky
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 4:39 PM
To:
Subject: RE: Please stop Duke Energy's hidden mandatory fee hike

Dear Ms. Melissa Moore,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Letter of Protest/Comments to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Your Letter of Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at www.psc.sc.gov.

- Docket No. 2018-319-E - Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can follow the individual Docket at the link listed below:

Docket No. 2018-319-E - Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order - <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/116872>

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Becky Latimer
 Clerks Office/Administrative Coordinator

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
 803-896-5100
 Sign up for Meeting Agenda Alerts: Text PSCAGENDAS to 39492

-----On: _____
From: _____
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 7:33 PM
To: PSC_Contact <Contact@psc.sc.gov>
Subject: Please stop Duke Energy's hidden mandatory fee hike

Dear SC Public Service Commission,

Please stop Duke Energy's proposed hike in mandatory monthly fees. The fee hike would leave me paying at least \$336 per year before I even turn on a single light, which would be the highest mandatory monthly fee of any investor-owned utility in the nation.

The hardest hit customers by this huge fee hike will be customers who use less energy, often low-income families and seniors, who can least afford it, and households like mine that have solar panels to reduce their burden and reliance on Duke Energy.

By moving such a large percentage of our bills to mandatory fees that cannot be reduced, no matter how little energy I use, Duke will be taking away my ability to control my electric bill by saving energy. The high mandatory fees will mean low-usage customers will be forced to pay more for using less.

Duke made more than \$3 billion in profit in 2017 and paid their CEO \$21 million, making her the highest paid utility CEO in the nation, yet somehow they now claim they need to collect more from customers. It almost makes their solar rebate program in 2017 and the states tax refund last year seem like they were just a big pyramid scheme to lure people in with the promise of lower cost power just to trap them and then use the mandatory fees to make up the difference to line their pockets.

Duke's proposed fees are unjustified, inequitable, and bad for consumers and the environment. When the mandatory fees outweigh the cost of the power saved, you will be putting a halt to alternative energy projects as the cost will outweigh the benefit. I know that I would not have followed through with the solar panels at my house had these fees been in place last year, as my savings would have been a much smaller portion of my bill.

Utility proposals for huge monthly fees like Duke's have been rejected by regulators and public officials around the country, and I ask that you do whatever you can to protect utility customers and stop Duke's proposal. Given that Duke holds a monopoly on electricity supply in the upstate, we need protection from their potential to place such an undue burden on their captive audience.

I do not require updates from the PSC on new matters in the docket.

Copies to: SC Public Service Commission and my state legislators

Sincerely,

Melissa Moore

Greenville, SC 29607-2014